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LETTER DATED 27 OCTOBER 1994 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF EGYPT TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

With reference to the letter dated 15 September 1994 from the Permanent Representatives of Argentina and New Zealand to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council concerning improvements in procedures for consultations among troop-contributing countries, the Security Council and the Secretary-General (S/1994/1063), I am instructed by my Government to inform you, in your capacity as President of the Security Council, that Egypt is joining other countries in the call for increased and more institutionalized procedures for such consultations.

At any given time, the overwhelming majority of United Nations peace-keeping forces and observers are coming from States that are not members of the Council. These forces and observers are being mandated by the Security Council to perform in a dangerous environment. Troop-contributing countries should therefore be consulted before decisions affecting the lives and safety of their nationals are taken by the Security Council. The Council should apply the spirit of Article 44 of the Charter of the United Nations, which reads:

> "When the Security Council has decided to use force it shall, before calling upon a Member not represented on it to provide armed forces in fulfilment of the obligations assumed under Article 43, invite that Member, if the Member so desires, to participate in the decisions of the Security Council concerning the employment of contingents of that Member's armed forces".

The modalities for consultations with troop-contributing countries on peace-keeping operations should be agreed upon with the Security Council. Such consultation would not infringe on the Security Council's prerogative under the Charter. Rather, the Council may consider such consultations, establishing a subsidiary organ for that purpose, as stipulated by Article 29 of the Charter.

I would be grateful if you could have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Mr. Nabil ELARABY
Permanent Representative

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